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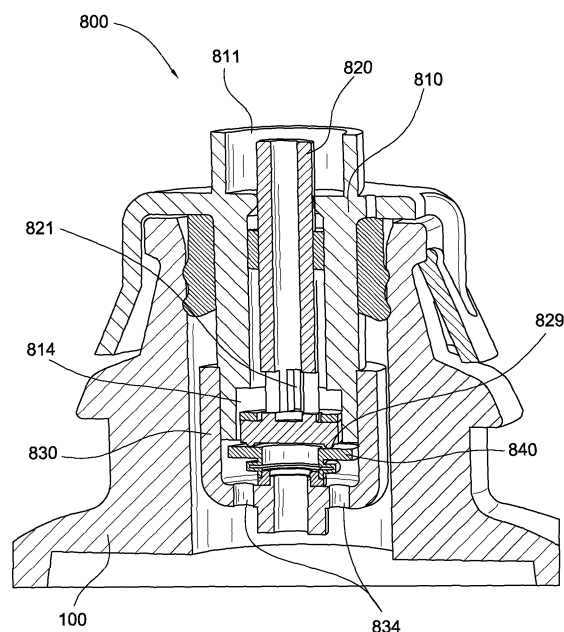
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(54) **Plastic valves and methods of using the same**

(57) A valve system (800) for a dispenser comprising a container (100) having an opening and an interior. The valve system (800) comprising:  
(i) a first sealing element (825, 822) between the interior and the opening of the container operable to close the container;  
(ii) a first fluidic pathway (821, 814, 840, 832) between the interior and the opening of the container such that the valve system is operable in a first open condition;  
(iii) a second different fluidic pathway (821, 814, 830, 834) between the interior and the opening of the container such that the valve system is operable in a second open condition; and comprising a mechanism (811, 820) for inhibiting access to the second open condition such that the first open condition is readily accessible and the second open condition is only restrictively accessible.



**FIG. 9**



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 10 16 2360

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	FR 2 295 342 A1 (SENEGAGLIA ROSALBA [IT]) 16 July 1976 (1976-07-16)	9-13	INV. B65D83/14
A	* pages 5-10 * * figures 7-15 *	1-8, 14-17	
A	----- FR 2 889 171 A1 (SEAQUIST PERFECT DISPENSING SA [FR]) 2 February 2007 (2007-02-02) * page 13; figures 1e,1f *	1-8, 14-17	
A	----- US 6 375 046 B1 (ALLEARD JEAN-PIERRE [FR] ET AL) 23 April 2002 (2002-04-23) * paragraphs [0047] - [0049] * * figures 2,3 *	1-8, 14-17	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B65D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 10 January 2011	Examiner Roldán Abalos, Jaime
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)



Application Number

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**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-8, 14-17

Valve system with mechanism to prevent user's actuation.

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2. claims: 9-13

Dispenser with refill valve.

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 10 16 2360

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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10-01-2011

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